Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 QUITO 08407 162056Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-15 HA-05 SIL-01 LAB-04 EB-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00
/091 W
----------079461 170901Z /13
R 161715Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6662
INFO USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS CZ
AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL
AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

UNCLAS QUITO 8407

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, EC
SUBJECT: REFERENDUM FORMALLY CONVOKED/NEW COALITION FORMED

REF: (A) QUITO 7752; (B) QUITO 8309

1. SUMMARY. ON DECEMBER 14 THE GOE FORMALLY CONVOKED THE CONSTITUTIONAL REFERENDUM FOR JANUARY 15. ON THE SAME DATE A NEW POLITICAL COALITION, THE POPULAR DEMOCRATIC COALITION WAS ANNOUNCED, COMPOSED OF SEVERAL LEFT-OF-CENTER PARTIES AND PROMINENT INDIVIDUALS. END SUMMARY.

2. IN A RADIO AND T.V. BROADCAST THE EVENING OF DECEMBER 14, GALO PLAZA, PRESIDENT OF THE SUPREME TRIBUNAL FOR THE REFERENDUM, FORMALLY CONVOKED THE REFERENDUM IN WHICH ECUADOREANS WILL CHOOSE A NEW CONSTITUTION. AS EXPECTED, THE REFERENDUM WILL BE HELD JANUARY 15, AND ALL LITERATE ECUADOREANS OVER 18 ARE REQUIRED TO VOTE. ONLY ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY AND POLICE AND THOSE SERVING PENITENTIARY TERMS ARE EXCEPTED.
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 QUITO 08407 162056Z

3. IN HIS REMARKS JUST PRIOR TO READING THE FORMAL CONVOCATION DOCUMENT, PLAZA REFERRED TO THE CAMPAIGN TO NULIFY VOTES IN THE REFERENDUM. WHILE RECOGNIZING THE HONESTY AND FREEDOM TO SPEAK OF THOSE SUPPORTING THAT CAMPAIGN, HE OPINED THAT ITS SUCCESS WOULD ONLY DELAY THE RETURN TO CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT. PLAZA ALSO REFERRED TO THE

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

DECISION TAKEN IN THE NEW TRANSITORY PROCEDURES (REF B) TO POSTPONE LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS TO AN INDEFINITE DATE AFTER PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS. HE SAID THAT THE SUPREME ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL WILL REQUIRE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES TO COMMIT THEMSELVES TO NAMING A SPECIFIC DATE FOR LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS DURING THE COURSE OF THEIR CAMPAIGNS.

4. OTHER NEWS ON THE RETORNO SCENE INCLUDES THE FORMALIZATION OF AN ELECTORAL COALITION FROM A HERETOFORE LOOSE POLITICAL GROUPING. DECEMBER 15 PAPERS CARRY ANNOUNCEMENT OF FORMATION OF THE POPULAR DEMOCRATIC COALITION, COMPOSED OF JULIO CESAR TRUJILLO'S PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVES, THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY, JOSE CORSINO CARDENAS' PROGRESSIVE SOCIAL FRONT, LUIS GOMEZ IZQUIERDO'S NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC UNION, AND INDEPENDENT POLITICAL ASPIRANTS GERMANICO SALGADO AND RETIRED ADMIRAL GUSTAVO JARRIN AMPUDIA. THE COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCING THE FORMATION OF THE COALITION DECLARED ITS SUPPORT FOR THE REFERENDUM PROCESS AND NOTED THAT THE COALITION WAS FORMED TO PROMOTE "PROGRESSIVE" GOVERNMENT. IT DENIED THAT THE COALITION WOULD PROMOTE A PARTICULAR PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE AND EMPHASIZED THE NEED TO OVERCOME NARROW PERSONAL AND PARTY INTERESTS WHILE THE NATION IS IN THE PROCESS OF RECONSTRUCTING DEMOCRACY.

5. COMMENT: THE FORMAL UNION OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS WITH TRUJILLO'S CONSERVATIVES AND CARDENAS COMES AS NO
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 QUITO 08407 162056Z

GREAT SURPRISE AS THEY HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED AND COOPERATING PUBLICLY SINCE AUGUST. JARRIN AMPUDIA'S MEMBERSHIP IS SOMETHING OF A SURPRISE, HOWEVER, SINCE THE EX-MINISTER OF NATURAL RESOURCES HAS BEEN PROMINENTLY MENTIONED AS A POSSIBLE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE OF THE COMMUNIST-LED FADI (BROAD LEFTIST FRONT).
BLOOMFIELD

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFERENDUMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977QUITO08407
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770470-1183
Format: TEL
From: QUITO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771247/aaaabndw.tel
Line Count: 101
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7bb04c02-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 QUITO 7752, 77 QUITO 8309
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 204709
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REFERENDUM FORMALLY CONVOKED/NEW COALITION FORMED
TAGS: PINT, EC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7bb04c02-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009